

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-01 CEA-01 L-02 H-01 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06

SAJ-01 /105 W

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P R 031605Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 524

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0611

GENEVA: PASS BENEDICK AND LEE IN UNCTAD DEBT DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, CI, DA

SUBJ: CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING

REF: STATE 45567

1. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR GAVE U.S. REACTION ON
UK DECISION NOT TO ATTEND PARIS CLUB CHILE DEBT
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MEETING TO FONOFF ACTING OFFICE DIRECTOR BRANDSTRUP

ON MORNING OF MARCH 3. BRANDSTRUP WAS IN PROCESS OF PREPARING A PAPER FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON THIS SUBJECT AND WELCOMED OUR VIEWS BUT WAS NOT ENCOURAGING ON POSSIBILITIES OF DENMARK ATTENDING THE PARIS CLUB MEETING ON MARCH 24-25.

2. BRANDSTRUP SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE UK DECISION WAS BASED ON AN AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE FEBRUARY BERLIN MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL NOT TO LEND ANY SUPPORT TO CHILE. HE UNDERSTOOD THE DUTCH WERE ABOUT TO REACH THE SAME DECISION NOT TO ATTEND AS THE BRITISH HAVE. HE SAID THAT THE NORWEGIANS HAVE ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY THAT THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN A CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING BUT NOTED THAT, SINCE THEIR DEBT EXPOSURE IS LESS THAN \$1 MILLION, THEY WOULD BE EXCLUDED ANYWAY BY CREDITOR CLUB RULES.

3. WITH THE REQUEST THAT WE HOLD THE INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL, BRANDSTRUP SAID THAT DUTCH DEVELOPMENT MINISTER PRONK HAS CALLED FOR A MEETING AT THE HAGUE OF SOCIALIST MINISTERS OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PARIS CLUB ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7 TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE, PRESUMABLY WITH THE INTENT OF BACKING UP THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN BERLIN. HE COULD NOT YET CONFIRM WHETHER THE DANES WOULD ATTEND BUT THOUGHT SO.

4. BRANDSTRUP SAID THAT A DECISION ON DANISH PARTICIPATION AT THE UPCOMING PARIS CLUB MEETING WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS BY THE DANISH GOVERNMENT. AT THE CIVIL SERVICE LEVEL, THE COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, SUPPORTED BY THE COMMERCE AND FINANCE MINISTRIES, AGREED FULLY WITH THE U.S. POSITION THAT CREDITOR CLUBS, PARTICULARLY THE ONE ON CHILE, SHOULD CONCERN THEMSELVES SOLELY WITH FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

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AND NOT WITH POLITICAL QUESTIONS. HE SAID THAT, AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL, THE PREVIOUS LIBERAL GOVERNMENT AGREED WITH THIS VIEW; THE PRESENT SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT APPEARS INCLINED TO GIVE GREATER WEIGHT TO POLITICAL FACTORS IN THE CASE OF CHILE. HE THOUGHT THAT, EVEN IF THE DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT COULD BE CONVINCED THAT THE ECONOMIC APPROACH IS MOST

APPROPRIATE FOR DENMARK'S INTERESTS, IT WOULD STILL BE HARD PUT TO ATTEND THE PARIS CLUB MEETING IF ITS SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES IN THE UK, THE NETHERLANDS AND, POSSIBLY, GERMANY DO NOT.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: DCM WILL DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN ON TUESDAY AND FOLLOW UP WITH OTHERS IN THE POLITICAL SIDE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE THINK, HOWEVER, THAT THE DECISION BY THE BRITISH NOT TO ATTEND THE PARIS CLUB MEETING FOR POLITICAL REASONS, PLUS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT OTHERS WILL JOIN THEM, WILL PROBABLY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR DENMARK TO ATTEND--EVEN IN THE UNLIKELY CIRCUMSTANCE THAT THE DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT WOULD WANT TO.
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